ing a cargo of 5,182 tonnes of coal valued at Rs. 30 lakhs.

(c) Nitya Nanak carried a crew of twenty three and Nitya Ram carried a crew of twenty one. All of them are presumed lost with these ships.

(d) Yes. The International Maritime Organisation is finalising the specification of beacons which shall float free in case a ships sinks without warning and then starts transmitting distress messages. It is the intention of Government to make it mandatory for ships to carry these emergency Radio Beacon|Buoy (EPIRB).

Captive Generation Plant at Bangalore

2393. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Karnataka had requested in August, 1984 that a captive generation plant to meet the power needs of Railways, as well as for all other Central Public Undertakings be installed at Bangalore or elsewhere in the State; and

(b) what action the Central Government have taken on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such request has been received by this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss suffered by the Air India due to bad debts

2394. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air India is losing about a million dollars early as bad debt on acccount of agents who use to go into liquidation regularly;

(b) if so, what is the loss suffered by the Air India as a consequence thereof-during the last three years (year-wise); and

(c) what are the guiding principles, if any, laid down by Government to appoint General Sales Agents and what steps have been taken by Government to remove the deficiencies, if any, to minimise the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Air India has not been losing about a million pollars vearly as bad debts on account of agents going into liquidation regularly. However, the amounts written off as bad debts during the last three years are as follows:—

Year	Rupees in lakhs
1982-83	17.01
1983-84	4.04
1984-85	0.42

(c) As far as appointment of private parties as General Sales Agents for Air India is concerned, Air India has got a Committee consisting of Senior Representatives of the Commercial and Accounts Departments to investigate and submit recommendations to the Management. Only after detailed examination of the report, is a private party appointed as General Sales Agent. As regards I. A. T. A. (International Air Transport Association) agents, such agents can deal with any airline and guidelines are laid down by the International Air Transport Association for this purpose. Air India keeps a watch on the revenue earned by the agents and necessary action is taken to safeguard the interest of the Corporation. In spite of all efforts, certain defaults do occur in the normal course of business.

Dropping of Vigilance case Against Railway Officer

2395. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state: